



Delta Omega

Honorary Society in Public Health

2009 Annual Meeting of the National Council

Monday, November 9, 2009

4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Ritz-Carlton, Philadelphia

Grand Ballroom

Philadelphia, PA

Draft Minutes

Members: Mary Applegate (Alpha Gamma); Nabih R. Asal (Beta Upsilon); Dwight Barrett (Kappa); Lynda Bergsma (Alpha Nu); Glyn G. Caldwell (Beta Gamma); Mary Foley (Beta Omicron); Janvier Gasana (Alpha Omega); Elin Gursky (Alpha); Betty Hahneman (Beta Eta); Cynthia Harris (Alpha Mu); Warren Hilton (Beta Omega); Brendan Hoey (Alpha Beta); Mildred Hunter (Not-specified); Robert Jacobs (Beta Pi); Penny Jessop (Eta); Joel Lee (Beta Chi); Bonnie McRee (Beta Rho); Telisha Miller (Alpha Lambda); Donald Morisky (Iota); Beverly Mulvihill (Upsilon); Catherine Nolan (Alpha Delta); Natalie Preston (Tau); Kalpana Ramiah (Omega); Antonio Rene (Alpha Tau); Darcy Scharff (Alpha Delta); Tanya Uden-Holman (Alpha Phi); John E. Vena (Beta Chi); Janice A. Vendetti (Beta Rho); Calandra Whitted (Beta Psi); John Williams (Beta Gamma); Richard Wilson (Beta Pi); Diane Wynn (Alpha Sigma)

Executive Board: Donna Petersen, Amy Lee, Nancy Partika, Muriel Harris

Staff: Kate Howe

The President of the national office, Dr. Amy Lee, called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Each attendee introduced themselves and stated which chapter they were from. Attendees participated in a “Tchotchke exchange,” and shared sundries from their schools/programs.

The 2009 agenda and minutes of the 2008 meeting were approved as presented.

Dr. Lee welcomed the new Beta Tau Chapter (University of Maryland-Baltimore), which was approved by the National Council via an electronic vote in September.

Letters of application from three schools and two programs of public health was presented and reviewed by the national council. The national council unanimously voted to establish:

- **Beta Upsilon Chapter:** University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions
- **Beta Pi Chapter:** UNC Charlotte Dept. of Public Health Sciences
- **Beta Chi Chapter:** University of Georgia College of Public Health
- **Beta Psi Chapter:** Meharry Medical College, Master of Science in Public Health
- **Beta Omega Chapter:** Drexel University School of Public Health

Ms. Howe gave the secretary's report. She reported that most chapters had sent in chapter reports but reminded those who had not to do to send them in as soon as possible in order to provide the National Office with correct contact information. [Chapter reports](#) can be downloaded from the national website or requested through the national office. She also mentioned that the reports are a good way to make sure the national office has the correct contact information for each chapter. Current contact information was provided in a list in the back of the meeting binders (section #8). Any corrections/updates may be emailed to khowe@asph.org.

Ms. Partika and Ms. Howe gave the treasurer's report. She reported that chapters with outstanding dues or those who the national office had no recorded inductions for should contact the national office as soon as possible if they had not already done so. The financial statement presented to the council members showed that Delta Omega closed the year (ending September 30, 2008) with reserves of \$28, 226.30. A note was made that there was a significant increase in the expenditure for supplies than in previous years. It was clarified that this was for reordering Delta Omega mugs (one of the sundries offered through the National Office), which would not be a yearly cost.

Ms. Partika and Ms. Howe then presented the FY09 projected budget. The projected budget was similar to previous years, with two additions of note: 1) the budget for student poster session cash prize was increased by \$1,900, which reflected the \$100 increase per prize/per student; and 2) moving expenses of \$1,500 since the national office has to relocate in May 2010, and will have to buy new furniture, incur moving expenses, etc. Because several new chapters were established this year, the projected increase in dues would cover any additional expenses and the Delta Omega would not go over budget. The council voted to approve the budget for FY09.

The awards committee report was given by Ms. Partika. The student poster session, currently in its twelfth year, featured nineteen student poster presenters. There were almost 50 abstracts submitted this year, which is a big increase over previous years. Members of the national council were invited to attend the reception immediately following the business meeting to meet the presenters and congratulate them on receiving their certificates and awards. Dr. Petersen mentioned that one of the main suggestions that arose from reviewing this year's abstracts was for faculty to help guide students in writing good learning objectives (a required component of the application process). Dr. Petersen mentioned she had completed a podcast on how to craft learning objectives, and it would be available shortly on the Delta Omega website. (*Note: it is currently posted at:* <http://www.deltaomega.org/forchapters.cfm#learningobj>).

Ms. Partika then presented the 2009 Curriculum Award, and reported that this year there were many outstanding nominations. Ms. Partika introduced this year's winner—Dr. Lynda Bergsma from the University of Arizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (Alpha Nu) for “Applied Aspects of Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation.” Dr. Bergsma gave a short presentation about her course. Ms. Partika and Dr. Lee presented Dr. Bergsma with the award.

Dr. Petersen, immediate past-president, gave the governance report. She presented proposed changes to the governance manual. The proposed amendment was to add eligibility criteria for the national office of member-at-large. No previous language existed. This proposed change followed discussion at last year's meeting, and reflected comments and suggestions made at that time. There was discussion and then a move to vote. The governance manual was amended to include the following criteria of eligibility for member-at-large (in red):

(From “Administration and Officers)

As stated in the Constitution, a President-elect is elected to office for a two-year term, then serves as Delta Omega President for two years and finally becomes Immediate Past President for two final years. *Criteria of eligibility to be elected as president-elect is an appointment as faculty of CEPH accredited schools of public health or public health programs with an active Delta Omega chapter.* Adjunct faculty are not eligible for election as President-elect. *Criteria of eligibility to be elected as member-at-large are that the candidate be an active member of Delta Omega in an active chapter of Delta Omega.* Each of the officers has a special role in the Society.

Dr. Lee presented updates for the publications committee. She reported that the collection of Delta Omega Classics was in need of several “intros” for existing publications. Dr. Lee passed around a list of the current list of classics and asked council members to volunteer to write an introduction. The list of classics is available online at www.deltaomega.org/classics.htm. Dr. Lee encouraged members to submit suggestions for expanding the list of public health classics to the national office. (For copyright purposes, articles should have been published at least 75 years ago.)

Dr. Harris gave the status of chapter relation reports. She reported that based on previous suggestions, the national office was planning to create a new “Chapter Service” award. A proposed draft of the award application was presented. Dr. Harris asked that feedback on the application, as well as suggestions for selection guidelines and criteria, be sent to the national office by the end of the year (email khowe@asph.org). The call for nominees for the award will go out in 2010.

Dr. Harris also reported on the Delta Omega Mentor Network—a web-based service that pairs public health students or young professionals with Delta Omega members who are willing to give career advice—currently has 33 members signed up, with roughly 8 joining in the past year. She encouraged members to sign-up as mentors and to also promote the network to the local chapters and especially their alumni in public health practice. Members can sign-up at www.deltaomega.org/mentorsearch.cfm.

Dr. Lee then led a group discussion on “*Chapter Motivation: Tips and ideas for organizing/expanding chapter.*” She asked chapters to report on their activities/events, and any areas of difficulty or topics for which they would like guidance from other chapters. Time limits prevented all chapters from reporting. The national office plans to solicit additional ideas via email and will send out an updated document once all the suggestions are compiled. This would be a resource (available via the website) for chapters to get ideas on activities and ways to expand.

Dr. Lee announced the induction of Mr. John Barry as a national honorary member of Delta Omega. Mr. Barry was unable to attend the meeting and was inducted into Delta Omega in absentia.

Dr. Lee adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and invited everyone to the Delta Omega Reception in the Arden-Mellon Balconies where students were presented the 2009 Delta Omega student poster competition awards.